

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on January 11, 2006 and supplements the response filed on April 10, 2006. This paper further supplements a First Supplemental Amendment filed June 20, 2006. In this paper, claims 34, 39, 45-47, and 50 have been amended and claim 37 has been canceled. Claims 9, 10, 12-18, 30-35, 39, 40, 45-53, 55-56, and 58-59 now remain in the application. In view of the foregoing amendments, as well as the following remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in complete condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application in this regard.

In a phone message from the Examiner on June 29, 2006 he indicated that independent claims 34 and 39 should be canceled or amended to recite the friction-creating substance in order to place the application in a condition for allowance. Applicants have amended independent claims 34 and 39 in the manner suggested by the Examiner.

In particular, independent claim 34 has been amended to recite "at least one of the crimpable sleeve and the archwire having a friction-creating substance applied thereto." Accordingly, for this reason as well as those submitted in the earlier responses, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 34 is allowable.

Independent claim 39 has also been amended to recite "a friction-creating substance on at least one of the crimpable sleeve and the archwire."

Accordingly, for this reason as well as those submitted in the earlier responses, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 39 is allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing response including the amendments and remarks, this application is submitted to be in complete condition for allowance and early notice to this affect is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes any matter requires further discussion, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned attorney so that the matter may be promptly resolved.

Applicants believe that no fees are due in connection with this response. However, if a petition is due or any additional fees are necessary, the Commissioner may consider this to be a request for such and charge any necessary fees to deposit account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,
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